

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-01

TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 CIEP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

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O P 300640Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 994 IMMEDIATE

INFO ALL OAS CAPITALS 020 PRIORITY

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 3187

USDEL 050

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: OCON, OAS, CU

SUBJECT: 16TH MFM

1. THE ELEVEN COUNTRY "FREEDOM OF ACTION" RESOLUTION PASSED WITH 16 VOTES (GUATEMALA BEING LAST MINUTE ADDITION TO THE SUPPORTERS). THERE WERE THREE NO VOTES, URUGUAY, CHILE AND PARAGUAY. NICARAGUA AND BRAZIL ABSTAINED.

2. THE FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF AMBASSADOR MAILLARD'S STATEMENT AND U.S. VOTE:

QUOTE SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER, IN HIS HOUSTON SPEECH DEALING WITH RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICA, MADE CLEAR THE WILLINGNESS OF THE

U.S. TO SUPPORT A GENERALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION TO THE ISSUE OF CUBA SANCTIONS. THIS RESOLUTION, WHICH WE HAVE VOTED ON THIS EVENING, IN THE OPINION OF MY DELEGATION, GIVES US THIS

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GENERAL ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION, ONE THAT COMMANDS THE SUPPORT

OF THE NECESSARY MAJORITY. ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE VOTED IN FAVOR OF IT.

AT QUITO THE U.S. TOOK A POSITION OF STRICT NEUTRALITY ABSTAINING ON THE RESOLUTION TO LEAVE WITHOUT EFFECT THE 1964 SANCTIONS. THAT RESOLUTION RECEIVED A MAJORITY BUT FELL SHORT OF THE NECESSARY TWO-THIRDS SUPPORT REQUIRED BY THE RIO TREATY. IN THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE CONSIDERED OURSELVES BOUND BY OUR INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS TO CONTINUE TO OBSERVE THE SANCTIONS.

WE HAVE NOW REACHED ALMOST UNANIMOUS AGREEMENT HERE AT SAN JOSE ON A PROTOCOL TO THE RIO TREATY THAT INCORPORATES THE PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE IN RESPECT OF LIFTING SANCTIONS. THE RESOLUTION JUST ADOPTED PROPERLY HONORS THE MAJORITY SENTIMENT IN THE HEMISPHERE. BUT IT ALSO RESPECTS THE LEGAL REALITY OF THE TREATY'S CURRENT PROVISIONS AND THE POLITICAL REALITY OF DIVERGENT OPINIONS IN THIS HEMISPHERE ABOUT CUBAN BEHAVIOR. AS DEPUTY SECRETARY INGERSOLL SAID AT QUITO "IT IS NOT EASY TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM OF A COUNTRY THAT DEALS WITH SOME ON THE BASIS OF HOSTILITY AND WITH OTHERS ON THE BASIS OF A MORE NORMAL RELATIONSHIP". THIS RESOLUTION ESTABLISHES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TWO-THIRDS VOTING PROCEDURES OF THE RIO TREATY IN FORCE TODAY, THE FREEDOM OF ACTION OF EACH COUNTRY IN THE HEMISPHERE TO RENEW OR NOT TO RENEW DIPLOMATIC AND TRADE RELATIONS WITH CUBA IN ACCORDANCE WITH EACH COUNTRY'S NATIONAL INTERESTS AND EACH COUNTRY'S OWN PERCEPTION OF CUBAN BEHAVIOR TOWARD IT. IN SO DOING IT PLACES THE ISSUE IN PERSPECTIVE AND PERMITS US TO CONCENTRATE OUR MULTILATERAL ENERGIES ON THE MORE FUNDAMENTAL PROBLEMS OF THE HEMISPHERE.

I SUPPOSE THE PRESS RIGHTLY WILL PAY CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO WHAT WE HAVE DONE HERE THIS EVENING. IN YEARS AHEAD, HOWEVER, HISTORIANS MAY WELL JUDGE THAT THE MORE SIGNIFICANT OF OUR TWO MEETINGS HELD IN SAN JOSE WAS THE SPECIAL CONFERENCE THAT MODERNIZED THE RIO TREATY, COMPLETING THE FIRST STEP IN OUR CONTINUING EFFORT TO REFORM THE INTER-AMERICAN RELATIONSHIP. END QUOTE. TODMAN

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